



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

SAMEEH TAHA HAMMOUDEH AND NADIA IBRAHIM HAMMOUDEH SENTENCED IN FRAUD CASE

TAMPA FL - United States District Judge James S. Moody, Jr. sentenced Sameeh Taha Hammoudeh and Nadia Ibrahim Hammoudeh to five years' probation each on charges of conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service and commit offenses against the United States, making false statements to Immigration authorities and filing a false tax return in 1998 with the Internal Revenue Service.

They were also ordered to pay restitution to the Internal Revenue Service in the amount of \$8,027.00. The pair pled guilty on February 22, 2005. Neither of the defendants is a United States citizen or a lawful permanent resident. As a condition of the plea agreements, the defendants agreed to stipulate to entry of an order of removal.

Sameeh Hammoudeh pled guilty to one count of conspiracy, one count of making a false statement to Immigration authorities, and one count of filing a false tax return. Nadia Hammoudeh pled guilty to one count of conspiracy, one count of making a false statement in an immigration application, and one count of filing a false tax return.

The case was investigated by special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tampa, the U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Tampa, and the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, Tampa. The case was prosecuted by Executive Assistant United States Attorney Terry Zitek and Trial Attorney Alexis Collins of the Department of Justice.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terror and criminal networks.